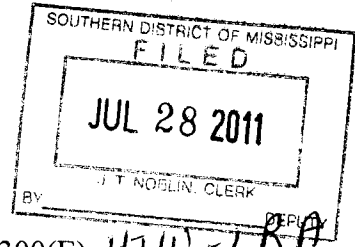


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI

JOHN BARNHARDT, et al., )  
)  
Plaintiffs, )  
)  
and )  
)  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )  
)  
Plaintiff-Intervenor, )  
)  
v. )  
)  
MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL SEPARATE )  
SCHOOL DISTRICT, et al., )  
)  
Defendants. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )



Civil Action No. 1300(E) H1W-LRA

**RULE 37 MOTION OF THE PLAINTIFF-INTERVENOR UNITED STATES TO  
COMPEL DISCOVERY RESPONSES OF THE DEFENDANT MERIDIAN PUBLIC  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Plaintiff-Intervenor United States respectfully moves this Court, pursuant to Rule 37 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Uniform Civil Rules for the Northern and Southern Districts of Mississippi, for an order compelling the defendant Meridian Public School District (hereinafter "the District") to provide answers and produce documents in response to the United States' First Set of Interrogatories and First Set of Document Requests (hereinafter referred to in the collective as "Discovery Requests"). The reasons in support of this Motion are more fully set forth in the attached Memorandum of Law In Support of Rule 37 Motion of the Plaintiff-Intervenor United States to Compel Discovery Responses of the District, including:

1. The United States served the Meridian Public School District with the Discovery Requests on February 7, 2011, in order to obtain data, materials, and other information related to

racial disparities in student discipline, terminations of black employees, and the elimination of administrative positions held by black employees. The United States has received numerous complaints about all of these issues from parents and community members familiar with the District.

2. The District has refused to provide the requested information on a voluntary basis and, instead, referred the United States to the discovery process to obtain the information sought.

3. The District responded to the United States' Discovery Requests with a general objection that the Discovery Requests are premature and beyond the scope of the desegregation orders in this case. The District also responded with specific objections to many of the Discovery Requests.

4. By the attached affidavit, the United States certifies that it has conferred with counsel for the District prior to filing this motion in an attempt to resolve this discovery dispute, but has been unsuccessful in its attempts to resolve the dispute.

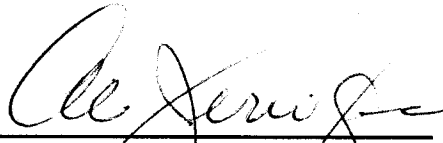
5. The United States therefore moves this Court to enter the attached Proposed Order to compel the District to provide responses to the United States' Discovery Requests. As a result of the District's failure to respond to the Discovery Requests, the United States remains unable to investigate the community's complaints fully as part of a thorough review of the District's compliance with the existing desegregation orders.

Filed: 7/28/2011

JOHN M. DOWDY, JR.  
United States Attorney

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS E. PEREZ  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division  
ANURIMA BHARGAVA, Chief  
KATHLEEN S. DEVINE, Special Counsel  
Educational Opportunities Section

  
ALFRED B. JERNIGAN, JR.  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Chief, Civil Division  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
United States Courthouse  
501 E. Court Street, Ste. 4.430  
Jackson, MS 39201  
(601) 973-2820 direct  
(601) 965-4032 fax  
[al.jernigan@usdoj.gov](mailto:al.jernigan@usdoj.gov)  
MS Bar. No. 3088

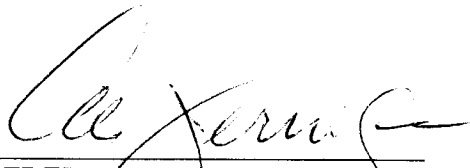
s/ Allison R. Brown  
ALLISON R. BROWN  
RYAN C. WILSON  
Trial Attorneys  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division  
Educational Opportunities Section  
Patrick Henry Building, Suite 4300  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
(202) 514-4092

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on this date, July 28, 2011, I mailed, postage prepaid, to each of the following counsel of record, a copy of the foregoing Rule 37 Motion of the Plaintiff-Intervenor United States to Compel Discovery Responses of the Defendant Meridian Public School District:

Holmes S. Adams  
Adams and Reese LLP  
111 E. Capitol Street, Suite 350  
Jackson, Mississippi 39225-4297

Fred L. Banks, Jr.  
Phelps Dunbar LLP  
4270 I-55 North  
Jackson, MS 39211-6391

  
ALFRED B. JERNIGAN, JR.